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National Conservation Commission has been advised of the proposed plan and whatever results come from it will undoubtedly be considered by the commission at its joint meeting with the governors of the states, or their representatives, to be held in Washington next December.

AN Australian Institute of Tropical Medicine has been established at Townsville, North Queensland. It receives subsidies of £450 from the commonwealth government; £250 from the Queensland government, and £400 from the British Colonial Office. The nomination of the first director has been delegated to the Royal Society and to the London and Liverpool Schools of Tropical Medicine.

THE Virginia Geological Survey, recently established by the General Assembly of Virginia, with headquarters at the University of Virginia, is under the direction of a commission composed of Governor Swanson (chairman), President Alderman, of the University of Virginia; President Barringer, of the Virginia Polytechnic Institute; Superintendent Nichols, of the Virginia Military Institute, and Hon. A. M. Bowman, of Salem, Va. At a recent meeting of the commission Dr. Thomas L. Watson, professor of economic geology in the University of Virginia, was elected director of the survey. Dr. J. S. Grasty, of the Maryland Geological Survey, was appointed assistant geologist, and Mr. Wm. M. Thornton, Jr., of the University of Virginia, chemist. Work is in progress on the geology of the coastal plain region, including the underground water resources; cement and cement materials; topography and geology of the Virginia copper district; geology of the rutile deposits; and building and ornamental stones. The studies of the coastal plain geology and topographic mapping of the Virginia district are in cooperation with the United States Geological Survey.

UNIVERSITY AND EDUCATIONAL NEWS

MR. and MRS. E. W. CLARK, of Philadelphia, have given \$10,000 to Harvard University for the establishment of two freshman scholarships.

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY has received \$10,000 from Mr. and Mrs. Henry F. Shoemaker, the income to be used in aiding poor students.

AMONG the alumni of Haverford College a fund is being raised for a science hall.

WITH the opening of the college year on September 24, the University of Wisconsin College of Agriculture inaugurated a new course known as the middle course, which may be completed in two full years. This course is designed to meet the needs of those students who have had a high school training and are prepared for university work, but can not spend more than two years at the university. The studies include practically all the work of the first two years of the long, or four years' course, with the exception that foreign languages and mathematics are replaced by more practical subjects. The aim is to give the students as thorough training in the sciences and technical agriculture as is possible in two years time.

THE Rev. W. W. Guth, A.B. (Stanford), S.T.D. (Boston), Ph.D. (Halle), pastor of Epworth Methodist Episcopal Church, Cambridge, Mass., has accepted the call of the corporation of the University of the Pacific to the presidency of that institution.

PROFESSOR H. WADE HIBBARD, head of the department of railway mechanical engineering at Cornell University for the last ten years, has been appointed director of the college of mechanical engineering at the University of Missouri. He will take up his new duties the first of the new year.

DR. HOWARD S. REED, expert in soil fertility in the Bureau of Soils of the United States Department of Agriculture, has been elected professor of plant pathology in the Virginia Polytechnic Institute, and plant pathologist in the Virginia Agricultural Experiment Station at Blacksburg, Va. He entered upon his new duties at the opening of the academic year.

AT Western Reserve University, Mr. Carl B. James has been promoted to be assistant professor of biology in Adelbert College. In the Medical School, Dr. Maulsby W. Blackman, instructor in histology and embryology

has been promoted to be lecturer in histology and embryology, and Dr. Roger C. Perkins, assistant professor of pathology and bacteriology to be associate professor of pathology and hygiene.

MR. CHARLES H. DANFORTH, who has been engaged in comparative anatomical investigation at Tufts College, has been appointed instructor in anatomy in the Medical Department of Washington University.

At Northwestern University David R. Whitney, Ph.D., Columbia, has been appointed assistant in biology, and J. W. Turrentine assistant in chemistry.

At Williams College, Mr. Charles Packard has been appointed instructor in biology; Mr. R. S. Corein assistant in geology; and Mr. L. B. Mears assistant in chemistry.

At Amherst College, Mr. Gordon Pulcher has been appointed instructor in physics; Mr. Charles W. Cobb, instructor in mathematics, and Mr. Arthur L. Kimball, Jr., assistant in geology.

EDWARD E. WILDMAN, M.S. (Pennsylvania, 1908), has resigned a fellowship in biology at Princeton on account of his election to a professorship in biology at the Central High School, Philadelphia.

MR. P. L. GAINES, a recent graduate of the North Carolina College of Agricultural and Mechanical Arts, has been appointed assistant in botany in that institution.

DR. JESSE H. WHITE, Ph.D. (Clark), has charge of the work in psychology and education in Pittsburgh University, during the absence of Professor Edmund B. Huey, who is spending the year in Paris.

PROFESSOR M. STUART MACDONALD, of the University of Fredericton, N. B., has been invited to give assistance to the department of philosophy until the board fills the vacancy made by the resignation of Professor Taylor.

DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

THE ADMINISTRATION AT THE UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS

THE abominable state of affairs which exists at some of our universities in America

could not last long if the true conditions were known outside. The faculties are powerless to correct them, for the very places where reform is most needed are the ones in which the professor is so shorn of his power as to be practically helpless. If public opinion is once aroused on the seriousness of this question, it will not take long to remedy the evil.

Those who are interested in the movement for putting our American universities on a true university basis will find some valuable material in the contents of this article.

I agree with the editorial in the *Popular Science Monthly*, for July, 1908, that Dean Kent did a public service when he exposed the administration of Chancellor Day at Syracuse University. I have heard that this is already producing a better atmosphere at Syracuse—as one might have expected.

For the same reasons I propose to give an account of a case at the University of Illinois, and in doing so I have no apology to make to any one; least of all to my fellow citizens of the state or to the alumni of the university. They are the ones who are most interested, and I believe that the vast majority of them will see at once that they will be benefited.

I am trying to clean up a condition which could not exist in the light, and which will spread its poison if allowed to persist in the dark. The university is too strong, the alumni too loyal, and the state, as a whole, too intelligent to allow the recurrence of such acts as have recently been perpetrated by the president of the university, supported, in part at least, by the governor of the state.

Those who are interested in academic freedom will be edified in seeing how the president of an American university handled a professor's case when he appealed it to the supreme court of the university—that is, the trustees.

Without going into the details of the case appealed, I will simply say that when President James came to the University of Illinois, I had completed seven years as full professor and head of the department of physiology. During this entire time I had had no friction with the former president, nor with any one else.